

Re: Homeless encampments/ tent cities in Valley ...

**Subject:** Re: Homeless encampments/ tent cities in Valley Plaza Park (North Hollywood)

**From:** Jackie Keene <jackie.keene@lacity.org>

**Date:** 2/11/19, 5:19 PM

**To:** Albert Torres <albert.torres@lacity.org>

**CC:** "Wong, Deborah M@DOT" <deborah.wong@dot.ca.gov>, "Hernandez, Marcoz@DOT" <marcoz.hernandez@dot.ca.gov>, Marco Ramirez <40604@lapd.online>, "Harutyunyan, Garegin@DOT" <Garegin.Harutyunyan@dot.ca.gov>, Emada Tingirides <31546@lapd.online>, Reiner Reich Bolor <41517@lapd.online>, Robert Chellew <37991@lapd.online>, Matthew Tenchavez <mtenchavez@lahsa.org>, Lorraine Diaz <Lorraine.Diaz@lacity.org>, Morgan Sutton <morgan.sutton@lacity.org>

Thanks all. Looping in both Lorraine Diaz and Morgan Sutton of our office to assist if there is any other coordination needed at our end.

<https://docs.google.com/a/lacity.org/uc?id=0B3uo9yav0dUuaml1RkJnM25zV00&export=download>

Jackie Keene

District Director

LA City Councilmember Paul Krekorian, District 2

Office: 818.755.7676 <tel:(818)%20755-7676>

[www.paulkrekorian.org](http://www.paulkrekorian.org) <<http://www.paulkrekorian.org/>>

<<http://facebook.com/krekorian>> <<http://www.twitter.com/paulkrekorian>> <<https://www.flickr.com/photos/81464672@N02/>>  
<<http://youtube.com/user/paulkrekorian>>  
<<http://facebook.com/krekorian>> <<http://www.twitter.com/paulkrekorian>> <<https://www.flickr.com/photos/81464672@N02/>>  
<<http://youtube.com/user/paulkrekorian>>

On Sun, Feb 10, 2019 at 10:48 AM Albert Torres <[albert.torres@lacity.org](mailto:albert.torres@lacity.org) <<mailto:albert.torres@lacity.org>> > wrote:

Deborah,

Request Tuesday February 26 for the single date. Best start time is 0800 hours. Thanks for the rapid response on this.

Customer Service Request - Ticket #: 740657

Albert Torres

Captain

Park Rangers

[Albert.Torres@lacity.org](mailto:Albert.Torres@lacity.org) <<mailto:Albert.Torres@lacity.org>>

Dispatch 323 644-6661

On Sat, Feb 9, 2019 at 9:32 PM Wong, Deborah M@DOT <[deborah.wong@dot.ca.gov](mailto:deborah.wong@dot.ca.gov) <<mailto:deborah.wong@dot.ca.gov>> > wrote:

Albert,

We need a single date for the cleaning out the homeless to calculate our posting day. This single date should coincide with City presence on the other side of the fence.

Pruning will proceed immediately after the cleaning to complete before the VIP event.

Marcoz,

Let me know if you need resources from another region.

Deborah Wong, P.E.

Caltrans Deputy District 7 Director

Division of Maintenance

Los Angeles and Ventura Counties

Cell) 213-792-8144

Work) 213-897-8150

Maintenance Service Request website:

<https://csr.dot.ca.gov/>

On Feb 9, 2019, at 12:30 PM, Albert Torres <[albert.torres@lacity.org](mailto:albert.torres@lacity.org) <<mailto:albert.torres@lacity.org>> > wrote:

Officer Ramirez

Deputy District Director Deborah Wong

Mr. Garegin Harutyunyan

## Re: Homeless encampments/ tent cities in Valley ...

Thank you very much. An approximate two week timeline would be greatly appreciated. I am adding Jackie Keene, of Councilmember Krekorian's Office. I will activate the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority LAHSA to offer assistance to the homeless people in that area.

Please let me know if you have any questions. See my assessment below.

We have removed encampments at Valley Plaza Park and vicinity since Monday, in preparation of a VIP Event at the Recreation Center. I assigned one of our park ranger officers to look at the area in question and write a synopsis of his observations. As follows.

North of Vanowen, (Library Side) we found 7 encampments all which were on the other side of the fence at the freeway property, which is Caltrans jurisdiction. I included some pictures of those encampments along the freeway. These are extremely large encampments and have probably not been removed in a long time. There were no encampments on the park side.

Here is an aerial of the section of the park north of Vanowen, east of the 170 freeway.

[https://www.scribblemaps.com/maps/view/Valley\\_Plaza\\_ffFqYv714bW\\_<https://na01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.scribblemaps.com%2Fmaps%2Fview%2FValley\\_Plaza\\_%2FffFqYv714bW%data=02%7C01%7Cdeborah.wong%40dot.ca.gov%7Cbecf2f31104e4d51ee2808d68ecd6f4b%7C621b0a64174043cc8d884540d3487556%7C0%7C0%7C636853410331322607&sdata=9VV1lRS3XqLvBezYqwfPfK1B10IRe7J4vprbVH20iT0%3D&reserved=0>](https://www.scribblemaps.com/maps/view/Valley_Plaza_ffFqYv714bW_<https://na01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.scribblemaps.com%2Fmaps%2Fview%2FValley_Plaza_%2FffFqYv714bW%data=02%7C01%7Cdeborah.wong%40dot.ca.gov%7Cbecf2f31104e4d51ee2808d68ecd6f4b%7C621b0a64174043cc8d884540d3487556%7C0%7C0%7C636853410331322607&sdata=9VV1lRS3XqLvBezYqwfPfK1B10IRe7J4vprbVH20iT0%3D&reserved=0>)

See attached photos.

### Action Items

- \* We are submitting an official service request to Caltrans on their website
- \* We will invite Caltrans to join us in addressing this problem by conducting a removal operation operation on a designated future date.
- \* We will include homeless services folks LAHSA to first outreach to all homeless people there
- \* We are requesting the assistance of all other agencies - LAPD North Hollywood, LAPD HOPE, City Attorney, Council Office, Mayor's Office, Recreation and Parks, LA County Mental Health.
- \* Our strategy must be holistic to the entire park, north of Victory and South of Sherman Way and west of 170.

Albert Torres

Captain  
Park Rangers  
[Albert.Torres@lacity.org](mailto:Albert.Torres@lacity.org) <<mailto:Albert.Torres@lacity.org>>  
Dispatch 323 644-6661

On Fri, Feb 8, 2019 at 10:36 AM Marco Ramirez <[40604@lapd.online](mailto:40604@lapd.online) <<mailto:40604@lapd.online>> > wrote:

Hello everyone,

As discussed earlier Recs and Park at Valley Plaza Park is requesting assistance with homeless encampments located on Caltrans Property (12311 Van Owen Street, North Hollywood). It is the stretch north along the fence line up to Sherman Way.

I was very fortunate to speak with Caltrans Representative Mr. Garegin Harutyunyan & Deputy District Director Mrs. Deborah Wong and advised them of the incident. Both representatives have agreed to assist. Captain Torres is there a deadline regarding the encampments? I was advised that a notice of up to two weeks would likely achieve what we discussed regarding brush and encampment removal.

See attached photos of Encampment

Thank You Harutyunyan & Wong for your assistance. See below email thread for more info.

Respectfully,

## Re: Homeless encampments/ tent cities in Valley ...

Police Officer II Ramirez, Marco #40604

Los Angeles Police Department

Office Of Operations

Unified Homelessness Response Center - Liaison for Operations West Bureau and Valley Bureau

500 East Temple Street

Los Angeles, CA 90012

---

From: Albert Torres <[albert.torres@lacity.org](mailto:albert.torres@lacity.org) <<mailto:albert.torres@lacity.org>> >  
Sent: Friday, February 8, 2019 9:56 AM  
To: Marco Ramirez; RAP RangerCommunications  
Subject: Fwd: Homeless encampments/ tent cities in Valley Plaza Park (North Hollywood)

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Albert Torres <[albert.torres@lacity.org](mailto:albert.torres@lacity.org) <<mailto:albert.torres@lacity.org>> >  
Date: Wed, Feb 6, 2019 at 8:46 PM  
Subject: Re: Homeless encampments/ tent cities in Valley Plaza Park (North Hollywood)  
To: Travis Woods <[traviswoods2882@gmail.com](mailto:traviswoods2882@gmail.com) <<mailto:traviswoods2882@gmail.com>> >  
CC: Wayne Neal <[wayne.neal@lacity.org](mailto:wayne.neal@lacity.org) <<mailto:wayne.neal@lacity.org>> >, Morgan Sutton

<[morgan.sutton@lacity.org](mailto:morgan.sutton@lacity.org) <<mailto:morgan.sutton@lacity.org>> >, Lorraine Diaz <[Lorraine.Diaz@lacity.org](mailto:Lorraine.Diaz@lacity.org) <<mailto:Lorraine.Diaz@lacity.org>> >

Sir,

We have removed encampments at Valley Plaza Park and vicinity since Monday, in preparation of a VIP Event at the Recreation Center. I assigned one of our park ranger officers to look at the area in question and write a synopsis of his observations. As follows.

North of Vanowen, (Library Side) we found 7 encampments all which were on the other side of the fence at the freeway property, which is Caltrans jurisdiction. I included some pictures of those encampments along the freeway. These are extremely large encampments and have probably not been removed in a long time. There were no encampments on the park side.

Here is an aerial of the section of the park north of Vanowen, east of the 170 freeway.

[https://www.scribblemaps.com/maps/view/Valley Plaza\\_/ffqYv714bW](https://www.scribblemaps.com/maps/view/Valley_Plaza_/ffqYv714bW)

[https://na01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.scribblemaps.com%2Fmaps%2Fview%2FValley Plaza\\_%2FffqYv714bW&data=02%7C01%7Cdeborah.wong%40dot.ca.gov%7Cbecf2f31104e4d51ee2808d68ecd6f4b%7C621b0a64174043cc8d884540d3487556%7C0%7C0%7C636853410331322607&sdata=9VV1lRS3XqLvBezYqwfPfK1B10IRe7J4vprbVH20jT0%3D&reserved=0](https://na01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.scribblemaps.com%2Fmaps%2Fview%2FValley_Plaza_%2FffqYv714bW&data=02%7C01%7Cdeborah.wong%40dot.ca.gov%7Cbecf2f31104e4d51ee2808d68ecd6f4b%7C621b0a64174043cc8d884540d3487556%7C0%7C0%7C636853410331322607&sdata=9VV1lRS3XqLvBezYqwfPfK1B10IRe7J4vprbVH20jT0%3D&reserved=0)

See attached photos.

### Action Items

\* We are submitting an official service request to Caltrans on their website  
\* We will invite Caltrans to join us in addressing this problem by conducting a removal operation on a designated future date.  
\* We will include homeless services folks LAHSA to first outreach to all homeless people there  
\* We are requesting the assistance of all other agencies - LAPD North Hollywood, LAPD HOPE, City Attorney, Council Office, Mayor's Office, Recreation and Parks, LA County Mental Health.  
\* Our strategy must be holistic to the entire park, north of Victory and South of Sherman Way and west of 170.

Albert Torres

Captain

Park Rangers

[Albert.Torres@lacity.org](mailto:Albert.Torres@lacity.org) <<mailto:Albert.Torres@lacity.org>>

Dispatch 323 644-6661

On Wed, Feb 6, 2019 at 1:33 PM Travis Woods <[traviswoods2882@gmail.com](mailto:traviswoods2882@gmail.com) <<mailto:traviswoods2882@gmail.com>> >  
wrote:

Hello Mr. Torres--

## Re: Homeless encampments/ tent cities in Valley ...

Just following up to let you know the homeless encampments still remain at Valley Plaza Park in North Hollywood, and are in fact spreading--now they are not only on the Cal Trans property of the fenceline mentioned in my original email above, but are now spreading onto the park property as well. I thought you should know, as the fights, fires, and trespassing have continued/ increased in the last three months.

Thank you  
Travis Woods  
818-825-5272

On Thu, Dec 6, 2018 at 8:22 AM Travis Woods <[traviswoods2882@gmail.com](mailto:traviswoods2882@gmail.com)> wrote:

Thank you for following up on this, it's very much appreciated.

Best,  
Travis Woods

On Wed, Nov 28, 2018 at 8:32 PM Albert Torres <[albert.torres@lacity.org](mailto:albert.torres@lacity.org)> wrote:

Sir,  
All the illegal encampments that you mentioned are located on Caltrans State Property. I will coordinate with all the agencies to support a unified effort for removal and follow up. As you have described, the encampments have a negative effect on the neighborhood, park, and it's patrons. We also want to collaborate with the homeless services professionals to outreach to any willing person out there.

Albert Torres

Captain  
Park Rangers  
[Albert.Torres@lacity.org](mailto:Albert.Torres@lacity.org) <<mailto:Albert.Torres@lacity.org>>  
Dispatch 323 644-6661

On Tue, Nov 27, 2018 at 1:08 PM Travis Woods <[traviswoods2882@gmail.com](mailto:traviswoods2882@gmail.com)> wrote:

My apologies for the bother, but I need to report a very large increase in the homeless encampments along the the western fenceline of Valley Plaza Park in North Hollywood.

The fenceline runs from Van Owen Street to Sherman Way, alongside the Sherman Way East offramp of the 170 N.

Once again, these encampments have led to both small fires and fights in the park at night, as well as near-constant building break-ins in the apartment complex directly north of the park.

These encampments being directly west of the Valley Plaza Library at 12311 Van Owen Street, North Hollywood, and stretch north along the fenceline up to Sherman Way.

If anything can be done, or if these area can be scheduled for cleaning/ removal at some point (I know it's a busy, ongoing process), it would be greatly, greatly appreciated.

Thank you.  
Travis Woods  
818-825-5272

--

Albert Torres

Captain  
Park Rangers  
[Albert.Torres@lacity.org](mailto:Albert.Torres@lacity.org) <<mailto:Albert.Torres@lacity.org>>  
Dispatch 323 644-6661